

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 7, 2007**

County Administration Center

Members Present

Alfredo Aguirre; Mary Baum; JoAnne Bushby; Ana España; Donna Ewing Marto; Paula Guerra-Lynch; Mary Harris; Kelly Henwood; Hon. Susan Huguenor; Sandra McBrayer; Rev. Nancy Mitchell; Walter Philips; Emerald Randolph; Dr. Vivian Reznik; Katherine Smith-Brooks; Sylvia Selverston; Daphyne Watson; Robin Wood.

Members Represented

Supv. Greg Cox (Maddy Morris); Carlos Flores (Nan D'Anna); Bill Kolender (Lt. Valerie Bickel); John Sansone (Dana Shoffner for John Philips); Jean Shepard (Pam Smith)

Visitors Present

Cheryl Blanchette, Harder & Company; Susan Bower, Alcohol & Drug Services; Kim Bushand, CDCR/CSA; Alonzo Fimbres, HHSA CAP; Nina Garrett, SDRC; Stephanie Gioia, Supv. Roberts' office; Shaline Hunter, CDCR/CSA; Paula Ingram, The Children's Initiative; Sandy Keaton, SANDAG; David Marshall, First 5 Commission; Ryan Messel, Family & Youth Roundtable; Meredia Rifle, Santa Collaboration; Jennifer Schaffer, Behavioral Health.

Staff Present

Roseann Myers, Harold Randolph, Brenda Torrez

I. Call to Order

Honorable Susan Huguenor called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Everyone present introduced themselves, stating their name and affiliation.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approval of the Minutes

Motion made by Sylvia Selverston, **seconded** by Ana España to accept the minutes of the May 4, 2007 Commission meeting as presented. The motion **passed** unanimously.

IV. Report from the Chair

- ♦ Membership Changes:
 - Vince Iaria resigned as Chief of Probation;
 - JoAnne Leone - South Community Collaborative Representative resigned her position due to a job change; and,
 - Change in Commission staff - Harold Randolph – Administrative Analyst replaced Jamie Beam
- ♦ Executive Committee approved the following items:
 - San Diego Youth and Community Services Letter of Support for a federal grant application for homeless and emancipating foster youth funds.
 - Honor Memory Rev. Glen Allison – establish Child Abuse Prevention Month recognition award to a member of clergy or faith based organization
 - Children's Trust Fund Spending Plan Fiscal Year 07-08:
 - ⇒ Trust Fund balance on June 30, 2007 was \$4,611,977.44
 - ⇒ Funds were approved for Community Services for Families \$1,400,000 for final two years of the contract.

- ⇒ Up to \$300,000 additional funds to fund a decrease in the State Promoting Safe and Stable Families allocation
- ⇒ San Diego Volunteer Lawyers Contracts - \$145,000 for Guardianship and Special Education Services for foster and kinship children.
- ⇒ Child Abuse Prevention Funding - \$125,000
- ⇒ Grant Matching Funds of \$ 61,680 for \$500,000 Federal Grant for children affected by methamphetamine. The application is pending approval.

- ♦ Commission to conduct a mandated Sunset Review this fall that will be presented at November Commission meeting.

V. Committee Reports

The Plan of Work for 2007 for all committees was distributed to Commission members.

A. Child Abuse Prevention Committee (Donna Marto)

- Roseann Myers welcomed Donna Marto and Debbie Comstock as the new co-chairs for CAPC.
- Diversity Schoolhouse resumes on September 11 at the Lemon Grove Library with our new co-sponsor, the County Library System.
- Co-sponsor Safe Start Train-the-Trainer on the "Safe Futures: Supporting Children and Families Affected by Domestic Violence" curriculum July 26-27 and September 7, 2007. There are 28 Safe Futures trainers who are available to provide training to agencies, community groups and church groups on the subject of how to respond to the needs of children and families affected by domestic violence. Training can be coordinated by contacting Ches Blevins at the Office of Violence Prevention.
- Partner with Alliant International University, First 5 Commission and United Way to convene a Shaken Baby Prevention Training at the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma's Annual Conference in September 20, 2007
- Formed a joint committee with Domestic Violence Council to provide leadership, resource development, education and coordination to protect children from exposure to violence and, when exposed, heal their trauma.

B. Fairness and Equity Committee (Daphyne Watson)

- A pilot project has been proposed to address the issues of disproportionality for African American children and youth in Central region. The goal is to utilize family finding for the children currently in the category of APPLA (Another Permanent Placement Living Arrangement) to search for relatives for potential placement. Grant funding is being explored.
- The focus group, which includes kinship and foster parents, met in April and June and named their group The Kinship Action Group. This group has a provided input on what contributes to these issues and they are developing strategies to address disproportionality. A meeting is scheduled with the Native American community to spearhead some issues they are facing and how we can help them address those issues.
- Fairness & Equity Committee has the benefit of a Technical Advisor, Cheryl Blanchette from Harder & Company. Casey Family Services is providing the funding for Ms. Blanchette.

VI. Presentations

A. Disproportionate Minority Confinement (Sandra McBrayer/Sandy Keaton)

- Copies of the PowerPoint presentation were distributed and discussed.
- Sandra McBrayer is the COE of the Children's Initiative and chairs the San Diego County Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) Committee. Sandy Keaton is with SANDAG and works on analyzing the data collected.
- Disproportionate Minority Confinement addresses the disparate treatment of minority youth along the continuum of juvenile justice system.
- San Diego has adopted the Federal government five system model:
 - Identification
 - Assessment

- Intervention
- Evaluation
- Monitoring
- This DMC Committee was developed in 2000 and has taken a long time to develop. The Committee is made up of a wide spectrum of people from Probation, District Attorney, Juvenile Court, Public Defender, School Police, Sheriff, local law enforcement and Health and Human Services. There is a lot of fear and hesitation around this topic. This is not to lay blame on any one system, but to share responsibility, identify disproportionality and find a way to change it.
- The State has their own DMC Committee and has identified funding for the counties. San Diego Probation was the lead in the application process, in partnership with The Children's Initiative and SANDAG. Current funding is from Corrections Standards Authority.
- Data was collected from case files of 10-17 year olds. The three ethnicities in this presentation are Black, Hispanic and White. These three were chosen because this is where the difference was identified. These data are not unique to San Diego. The one thing that is unique to San Diego is that Black and Hispanic youth are not showing the disproportionality as seen in other areas of the United States.
- Variables that were considered in these cases included: family background; youth characteristics; adverse childhood experiences; and, criminal history. This caused the number of cases analyzed to be very small.
- In one sample of 1,174 youth arrested in 2003 black youth were overrepresented at three decision points.
- In an assessment of 278 cases with a sustained petition black youth were more likely to: not be living with both biological parents, have a parent who used drugs, have a parent who was incarcerated, been abused, had an out of home placement, and have prior criminal histories.
- Current data collected is more recent, stratified by race/ethnicity and from point of sustained petition. Qualitative information is from interviews and focus groups with justice staff. Four statisticians are now reviewing and analyzing the information collected. The next step is to write a report and present it to the DMC Committee, which will then help in forming the next step which is disseminating this information and also looking at policy recommendations and trainings.

B. Report Card Indicators (Sandra McBrayer)

- The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency has been producing a Report Card in 1997-98. Three years ago, The Children's Initiative was asked to compare it other Report Cards nationally. Two years ago, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to contract and partner with The Children's Initiative to develop and produce a Report Card. The San Diego Report Card on Results for Children and Families will include new and refined indicators, a focus on disparities, analysis of trends, and recommendations.
- The advisors to the project are the Leadership Oversight Committee composed of leaders from Children's Initiative Board, Commission Executive Director, County government, American Academy of Pediatrics, and other stakeholders. In addition there is a Scientific Data Team to provide data and statistical advice and guidance.
- A packet of information was distributed that included Comparison of Report Card Indicators; indicators that have been dropped, are not feasible or not selected; and, the list of participants on the Leadership Advisory Oversight and Scientific Advisory Review Committees. Background information and how data is collected was discussed on various subjects. Input and comments were solicited on the proposed indicators. (check on tape for any feedback)
- The next report card will be released in January 2008 and then every two years.

C. Behavioral Health Services (Jennifer Schaefer)

- Ms. Schaefer explained that the Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Division is responsible for Mental Health Services and Alcohol and Drug Services. The reason for bringing these two groups together is to better coordinate and better integrate services. Each service has its own funding streams, rules and regulations, which makes it difficult for providers trying to provide services to someone who has co-occurring diagnoses. Studies show that if someone is diagnosed with either illness, at least half of them are likely to have the other diagnosis. The goal of BHS is to provide the best services possible for these people. The principle is that there is "no wrong door".

- Behavioral Health Services has \$340 million budget; \$292 million for Mental Health and \$47 million for Alcohol and Drug Services. There are 292 contracts to provide these services. Contractors screen, determine primary disability and whether there is a dual diagnosis, then find the best program to help each individual. County BHS staff provide training and conduct site visits. Information is also collected to track who is being served. Other accomplishments include having a crisis access line run by United Behavioral Health has the capability of referring people to either system.
- If a program is unable to provide the comprehensive treatment, they are expected to know where to refer them for the appropriate treatment. BHS has been sharing information with contractors about available services.
- Internally, BHS is trying to bring budget and contract departments together. This will help providers have uniform fiscal or contract requirements. Also, the strategic planning departments have been recently consolidated.
- A handout was distributed updating information on the six major components of the Mental Health Services Act. Prevention and early intervention (PEI) plans are one of the components. On September 19 a Suicide Prevention Public Workshop will be held in San Diego; and, September 27 there will be a Community Kickoff Meeting for PEI plans that will include stakeholders.

D. Alcohol and Drug Services (Susan Bower)

- Copies of the PowerPoint were distributed and discussed. Alcohol and Drug Services' focus is reducing alcohol and drug problems throughout the community by engaging the community. Substance abuse impacts every system.
- ADS services are 100% contracted out. The County staff jobs are to plan services with other County and community providers; gather and analyze data; identify gaps; locate funding to support the needed services; implement and manage the contracts for the services; and, then make changes as necessary.
- The array of services includes prevention, education, pre-treatment, treatment and recovery. Each category was discussed. This year, ADS is adding "problem gambling" to their array of services.
- In 2006-07, approximately 22,000 clients were served. Services are provided through residential; non-residential; treatment and recovery; and, DUI programs. Services are provided for children, youth and families as well as special populations; e.g., Hispanic, Deaf and Late Deafened.
- Communities are usually resistant to locating alcohol and drug treatment residential programs in their neighborhoods. Residential programs are required by the City to get conditional use permits. There is a new initiative around Fair Housing laws and a public education movement in process.

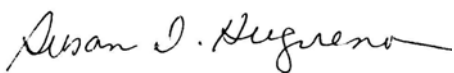
VII. Additional Business

- This is the last CCYF meeting for Nan D'Anna, Commission Secretary, before her retirement. In appreciation for her service and dedication to children, the Commission presented her with an engraved vase with roses.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



HONORABLE SUSAN D. HUGUENOR
Chair

Written by Brenda Torrez